

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 976
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 28, 2013; March 12, 2013,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 11, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,
1-5 Nays 0; April 11, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Seliger	X		
1-9	Watson	X		
1-10	Birdwell	X		
1-11	Duncan	X		
1-12	Patrick	X		
1-13	West	X		
1-14	Zaffirini	X		

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the temporary approval of an institution to participate
1-18 in the tuition equalization grant program.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Section 61.222, Education Code, is amended to
1-21 read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 61.222. APPROVED INSTITUTIONS. (a) The coordinating
1-23 board shall approve only those private or independent colleges or
1-24 universities that are private or independent institutions of higher
1-25 education as defined by Section 61.003 or are located within this
1-26 state and meet the same program standards and accreditation as
1-27 public institutions of higher education as determined by the board.

1-28 (b) The coordinating board may temporarily approve a
1-29 private or independent institution of higher education as defined
1-30 by Section 61.003 that previously qualified under Subsection (a)
1-31 but no longer holds the same accreditation as public institutions
1-32 of higher education. To qualify under this subsection, an
1-33 institution must be:

1-34 (1) accredited by an accreditor recognized by the
1-35 board;

1-36 (2) actively working toward the same accreditation as
1-37 public institutions of higher education;

1-38 (3) participating in the federal financial aid program
1-39 under 20 U.S.C. Section 1070a; and

1-40 (4) a "part B institution" as defined by 20 U.S.C.
1-41 Section 1061(2) and listed in 34 C.F.R. Section 608.2.

1-42 (c) The coordinating board may grant temporary approval for
1-43 a period of two years and may renew the approval once.

1-44 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-45 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-46 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-47 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-48 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

1-49 * * * * *